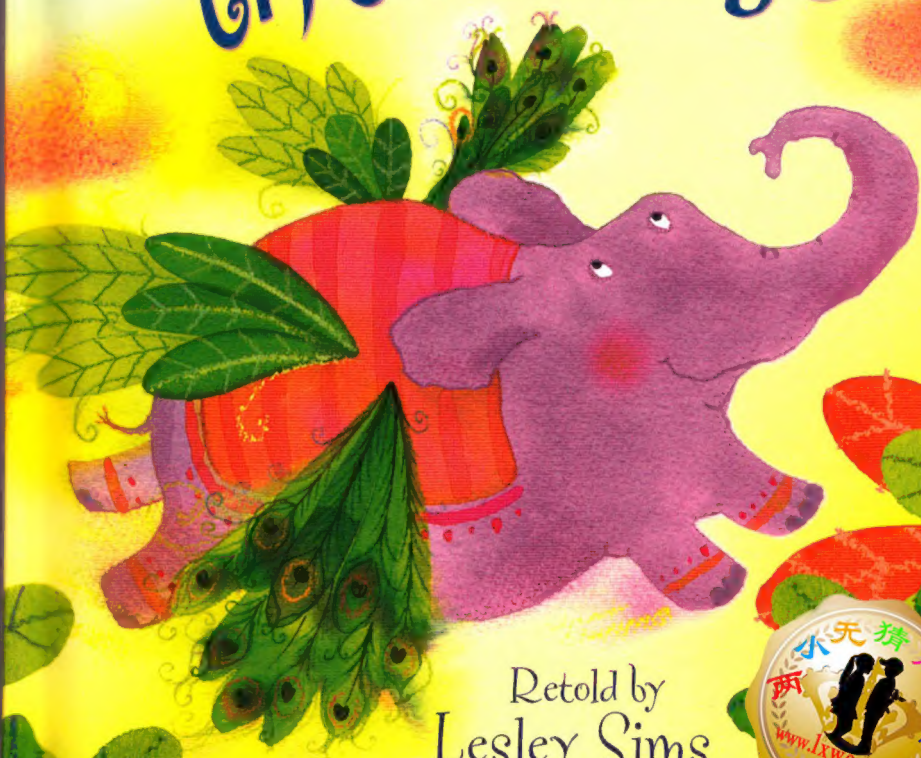


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# How Elephants lost their Wings



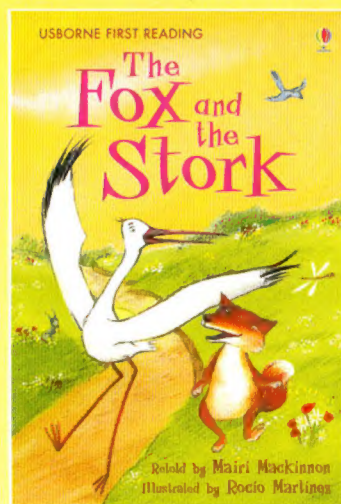
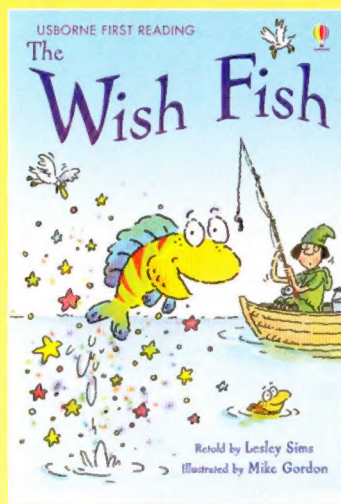
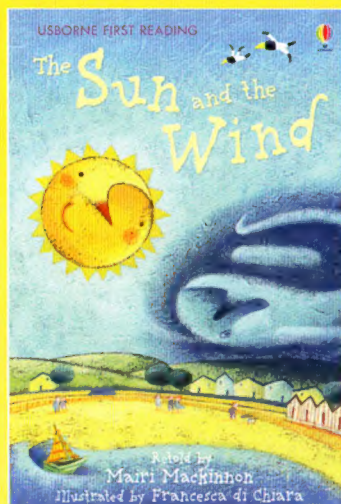
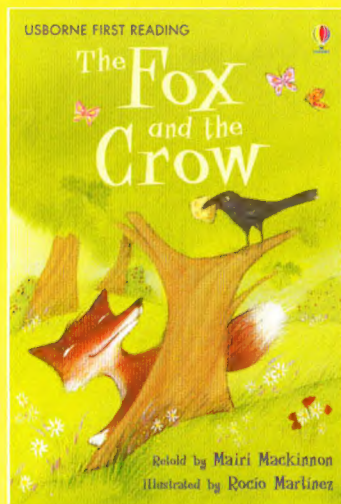
Retold by  
Lesley Sims

Illustrated by Katie Lovell





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Level One

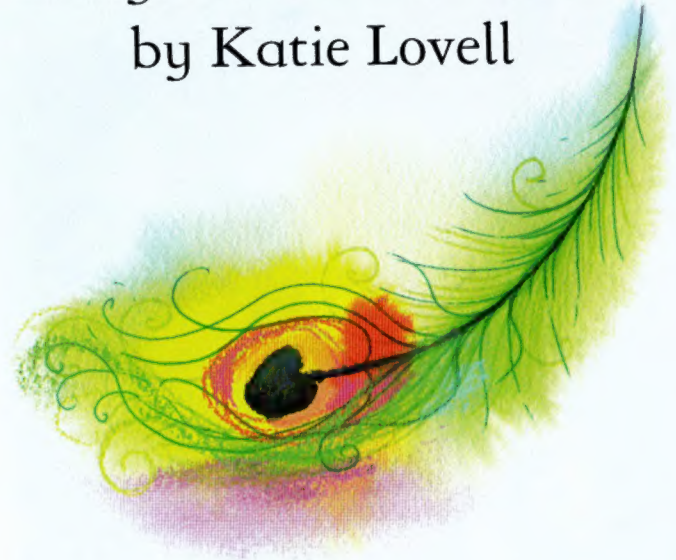




# How Elephants Lost their Wings

Retold by Lesley Sims

Designed and illustrated  
by Katie Lovell



Reading Consultant: Alison Kelly  
Roehampton University



This story is about  
flying elephants,



two gods,



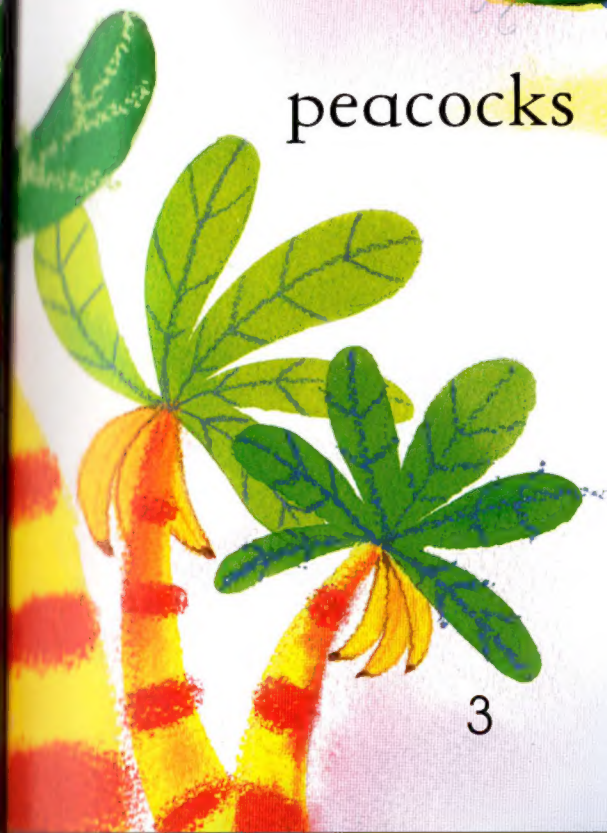
houses,



peacocks



and  
banana  
trees.





Once upon a time,  
elephants could fly.



They flew everywhere.



They flew high  
into the sky...



and down to the ground.



They even  
looped  
the loop.





Sometimes, the gods  
flew on their backs.





But the elephants  
were noisy.



They yelled, and  
crowed like roosters.

Trees and houses  
shook below them.

Cock-a-  
doodle-  
do!

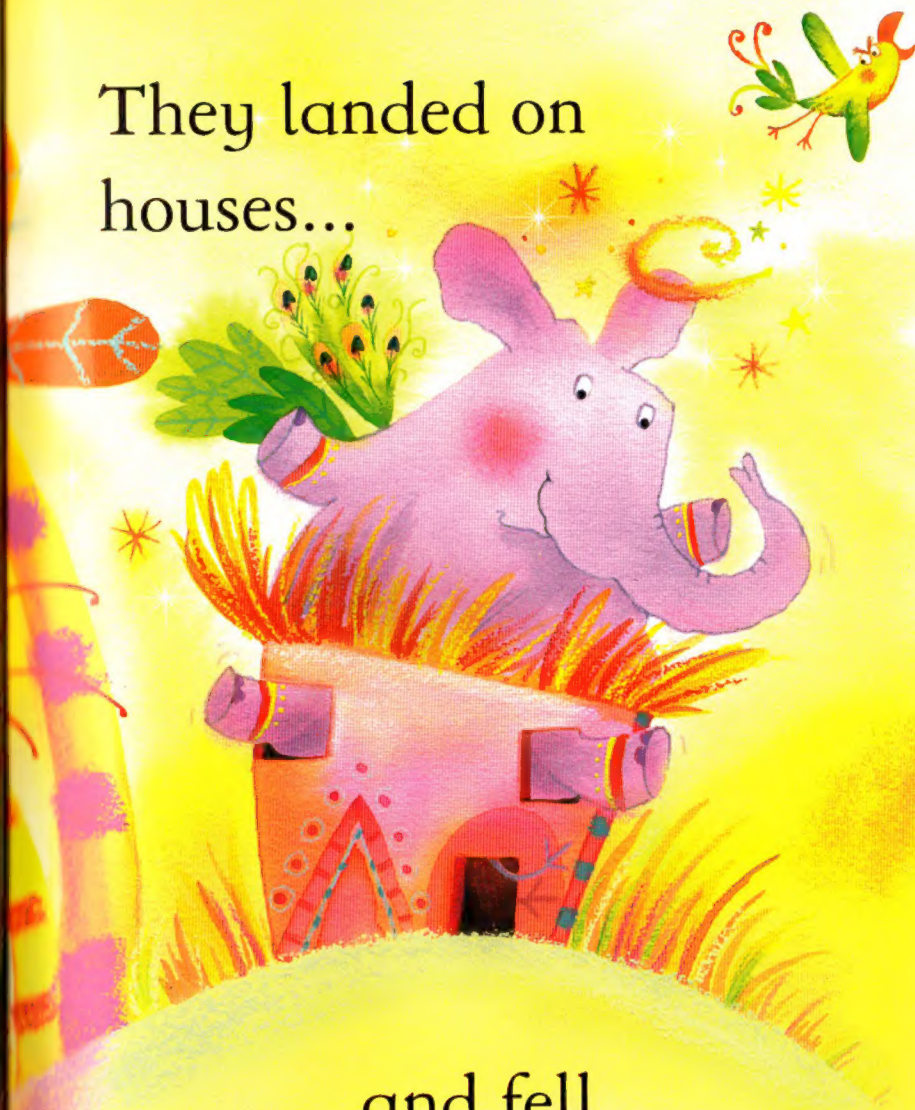




They flew into trees  
and smashed them.



They landed on  
houses...



and fell  
right through.

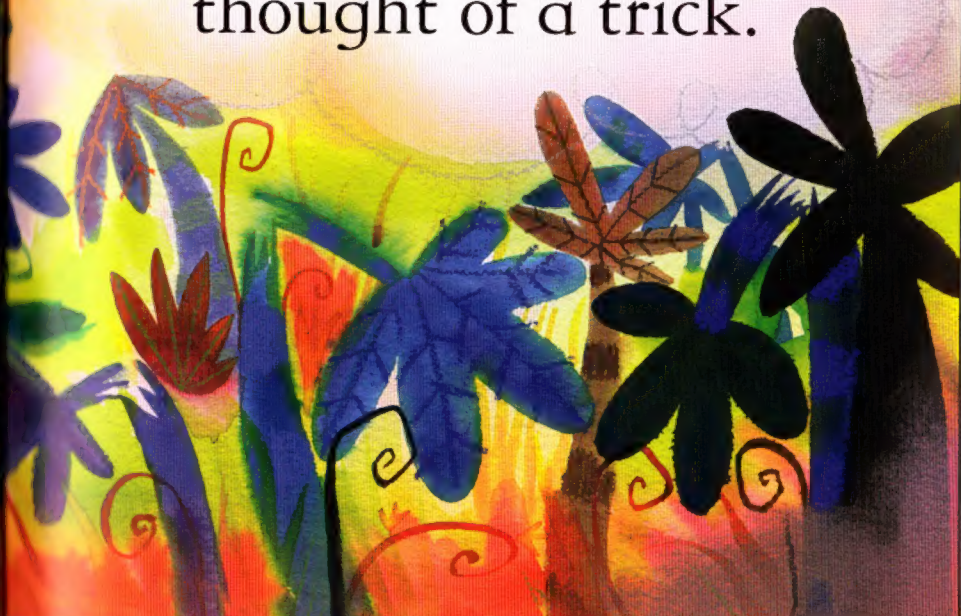




Soon all the trees were  
broken and there were  
no houses left.



“We must stop them,”  
said the gods, and they  
thought of a trick.





They invited the  
elephants to a grand  
feast. The elephants  
ate...


...and  
ate.



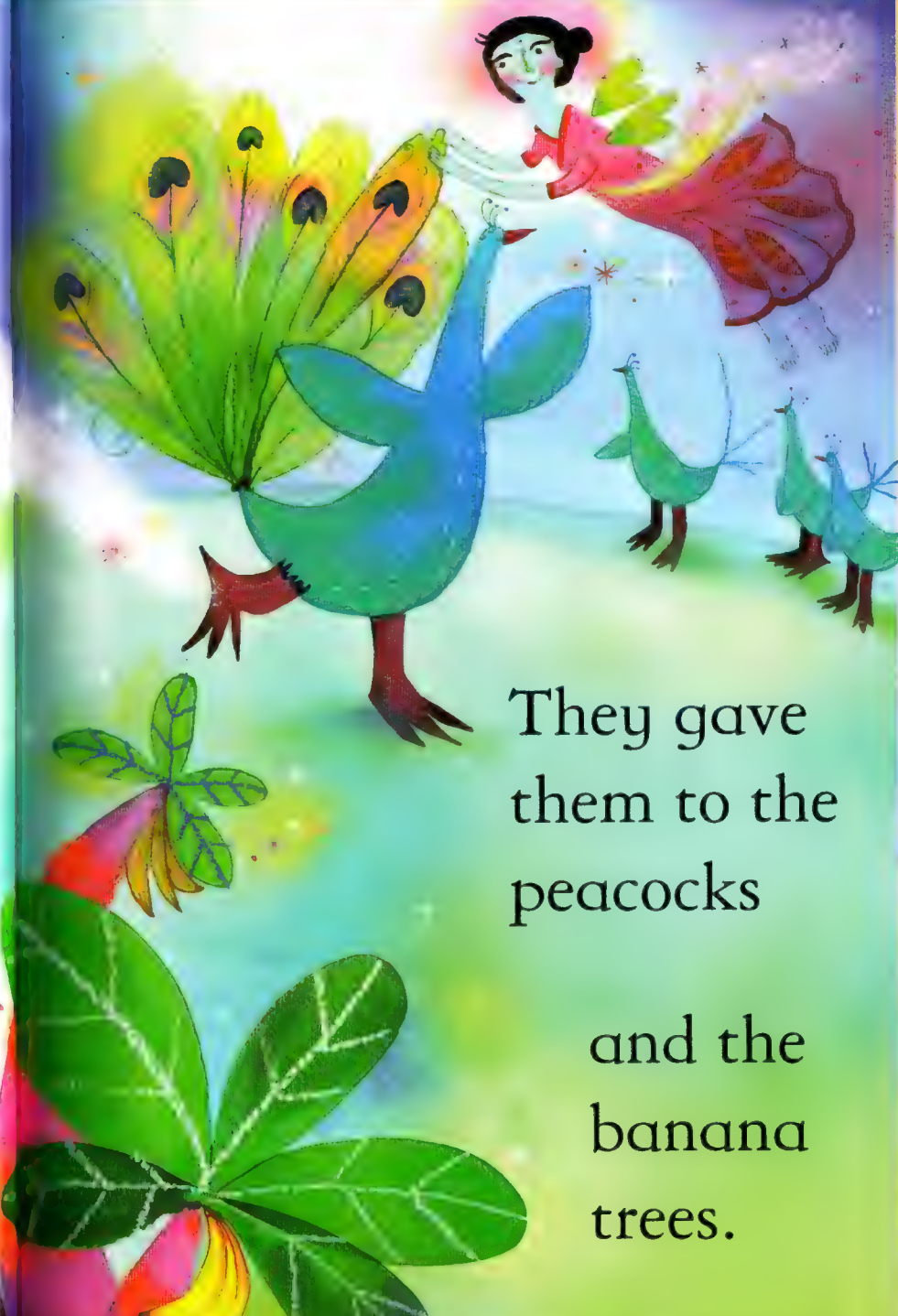
When their tummies  
were full, they slept.





An illustration of a deity with a white face and a red and blue striped garment, sleeping under a large red and blue tent. The deity is lying on a purple elephant. There are stylized trees in the background and small red and yellow stars in the sky. The text "The gods took away their wings." is written in a simple, black, sans-serif font.

The gods took  
away their wings.

An illustration of a deity with a white face and a red and blue striped garment, standing and giving wings to a large blue peacock. The peacock has a large, colorful tail with green, yellow, and blue feathers. There are other peacocks in the background and stylized trees in the foreground. The text "They gave them to the peacocks" is written in a simple, black, sans-serif font.

They gave  
them to the  
peacocks

and the  
banana  
trees.



The elephants  
were very cross.



They shouted  
and they stomped.







But they didn't get  
their wings back



and they never  
flew again.



# Puzzles

## Puzzle 1



Find these things  
in the picture:

elephant  
trunk  
houses  
hill  
tree  
wings





\* Puzzle 2

Can you spot the differences  
between these two pictures?

There are six to find.





# Puzzle 3

Put the pictures in order.

A



B



C



D



E



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What happened next?

## Puzzle 4

A



or

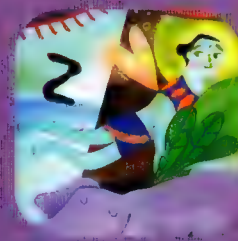
B?



## Puzzle 5



A or B?

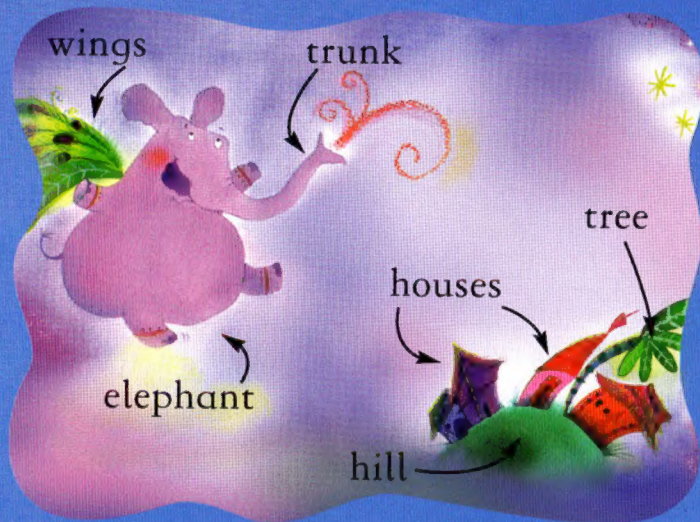


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# Answers to puzzles

Puzzle 1



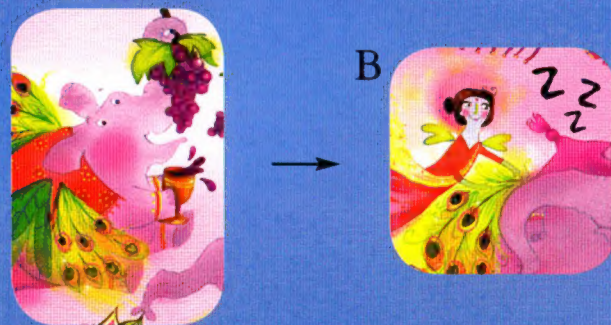
Puzzle 2



Puzzle 3



Puzzle 4



Puzzle 5







*How Elephants lost their Wings* is  
based on a folktale from India.



With thanks to Arshia Sattar  
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Additional design: Caroline Spatz

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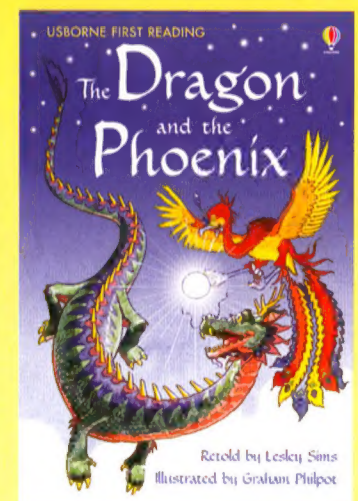
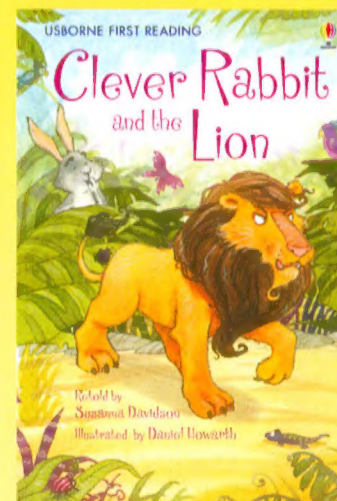
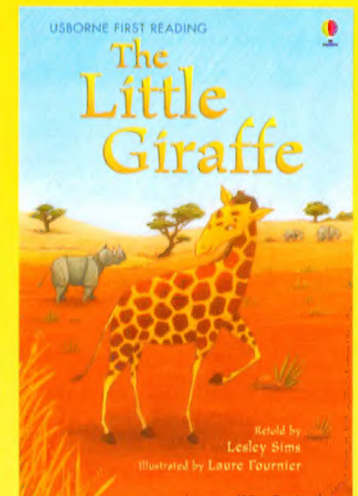
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USBORNE FIRST READING  
Level Two





# How Elephants Lost their Wings

Believe it or not, elephants used to be able to fly.  
But flying elephants were big trouble...  
This lively retelling of an Indian folktale has easy-to-read  
text and fun puzzles to try after the story.



**How Elephants lost their Wings** is in the **Usborne First Reading** series, written especially for children who are learning to read, and developed in consultation with Alison Kelly, Senior Lecturer in Education and reading specialist at Roehampton University. With delightful illustrations, these books combine great stories with simple text to excite and inspire any beginner.

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